IN THE CLAIMS

1. (*Original*) A process for making quetiapine comprising the step of reacting 11-piperazinyl dibenzo[*b,f*]-[1,4]thiazepine hydrochloride and 2-(2-chloroethoxy) ethanol in a solvent in the presence of a base, and a phase transfer catalyst.

2. (*Original*) The process of claim 1 wherein the reacting is at reflux temperature.

3. (*Original*) The process of claim 1 wherein the reacting is performed in the presence of an alkali metal halide.

4. (*Original*) The process of claim 3 wherein said alkali metal halide is sodium iodide.

5. (*Original*) The process of claim 1 wherein the phase transfer catalyst is selected from the group consisting of tetrabutylammonium bromide, triethylbenzylammonium chloride, tricaprylmethylammonium chloride and tetrabutylammonium hydroxide.

6. (*Original*) The process of claim 5 wherein the phase transfer catalyst is tetrabutylammonium bromide.

7. (*Original*) The process of claim 1 wherein the solvent is a lower alkanol, an aromatic hydrocarbon, or dipolar aprotic solvent, or a mixture of one or more of these.

8. (*Original*) The process of claim 7 wherein the solvent is *n*-butanol.

9. (*Original*) The process of claim 7 wherein the solvent is toluene.

10. (*Original*) The process of claim 7 wherein the solvent is dimethyl formamide.

11. (*Original*) The process of claim 1 wherein the base is selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal and alkaline earth metal oxides, hydroxides, bicarbonates and carbonates.

12. (*Original*) The process of claim 11, wherein said base is sodium carbonate.

13. (*Original*) A process for making quetiapine hemifumarate comprising the steps of:

a) reacting 11-piperazinyl dibenzo[*b,f*]-[1,4]thiazeine hydrochloride and 2-(2-chloroethoxy)ethanol in a solvent in the presence of a base, and a phase transfer catalyst, whereby a first slurry is obtained,

b) separating the solid from the first slurry whereby a liquid filtrate is obtained,

c) combining the liquid filtrate with fumaric acid, whereby a second slurry is obtained, and

d) isolating quetiapine hemifumarate from the second slurry.

14. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 wherein the combination of step c) is heated to a temperature of about 80°C to about 100° C or higher and subsequently cooled to a temperature less than about 100° C, whereby a slurry is obtained.

15. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 wherein the reacting is at a temperature of about 100°C.

16. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 wherein the reacting is performed in the presence of an alkali metal halide.

17. (*Original*) The process of claim 16 wherein said alkali metal halide is sodium iodide.

18. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 wherein the phase transfer catalyst is selected from the group consisting of tetrabutylammonium bromide, triethylbenzylammonium chloride, tricaprylmethylammonium chloride, and tetrabutylammonium hydroxide.

19. (*Original*) The process of claim 18 wherein the phase transfer catalyst is tetrabutylammonium bromide.

20. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 wherein the solvent is a lower alkanol, an aromatic hydrocarbon, or dipolar aprotic solvent, or a mixture of one or more of these.

21. (*Original*) The process of claim 20 wherein the solvent is *n*-butanol.

22. (*Original*) The process of claim 20 wherein the solvent is toluene.

23. (*Original*) The process of claim 20 wherein the solvent is dimethyl formamide.

24. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 wherein the base is selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal and alkaline earth metal oxides, hydroxides, bicarbonates and carbonates.

25. (*Original*) The process of claim 24 wherein the base is sodium carbonate.

26. (*Original*) The process of claim 13 further comprising the step of recrystallizing the isolated quetiapine hemifumarate from a solvent selected from the lower alkanols and mixtures of a dipolar aprotic solvent and water.

27. (*Currently Amended*) The process of claim 26 wherein the lower alkanol is ethanol or ~~isopropnol~~ isopropanol and the dipolar aprotic solvent is dimethyl formamide.

28. (*Original*) In a process for making quetiapine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, the step of reacting 11-piperazinyl dibenzo[*b,f*]-[1,4]thiazepine hydrochloride and 2-(2-chloroethoxy)ethanol in a solvent that is a lower alkanol, an aromatic hydrocarbon, or a dipolar aprotic solvent, in the presence of sodium carbonate, sodium iodide, and tetrabutylammonium bromide.

29. (*Original*) The process of claim 28 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is the hemifumarate.

30. (*Original*) A process for making quetiapine comprising the step of reacting, at reflux, 11-piperazinyl dibenzo[*b,f*]-[1,4]thiazepine hydrochloride and 2-(2-chloroethoxy)ethanol in a solvent selected from n-butanol, toluene, and dimethyl formamide, in the presence of sodium carbonate, sodium iodide, and tetrabutylammonium bromide.

31. (*Original*) A process for making quetiapine hemifumarate comprising the steps of:

a) reacting, at reflux, 11-piperazinyl dibenzo[*b,f*]-[1,4]thiazapine hydrochloride and 2-(2-chloroethoxy)ethanol in a solvent selected from n-butanol, toluene, and dimethyl formamide in the presence of sodium carbonate, and tetrabutyl ammonium bromide, whereby a first slurry is obtained,

b) separating the solid from the first slurry whereby a liquid filtrate is obtained,

c) combining the liquid filtrate with fumaric acid,

d) heating the combination to a temperature of about 100°C or higher,

e) subsequently cooling the combination to < 100° C, whereby a second slurry is obtained, and

f) isolating quetiapine hemifumarate from the second slurry.

~~31~~32. (*Currently Amended*) The process of claim ~~30~~ 31 wherein the ~~rereacting~~ reacting is carried-out also in the presence of sodium iodide.

~~32~~33. (*Currently Amended*) The process of claim ~~30~~ 31 further comprising the step of recrystallizing the quetiapine hemifumarate isolated in step f) from a solvent selected from the lower alkanol or a mixture of a dipolar aprotic solvent and water.

~~33~~34. (*Currently Amended*) The process of claim 32 wherein the lower alkanol is ethanol or isopropanol and the dipolar aprotic solvent is dimethyl formamide.